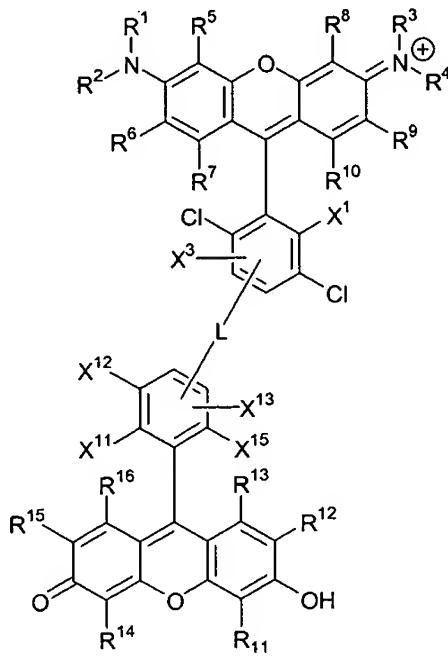


AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Claims 1-79 (Cancelled).

80. (Previously added): An energy transfer dye comprising:
a xanthene donor dye capable of absorbing light at a first wavelength and
emitting excitation energy in response thereto;
a 4,7-dichlororhodamine acceptor dye capable of absorbing the excitation energy
emitted by the donor dye and fluorescing at a second wavelength in response thereto; and
a non-nucleosidic linker linking the 5- or 6-ring position of the donor dye to the
5- or 6-ring position of the acceptor dye.
81. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 in which the donor dye is a
fluorescein dye.
82. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 in which the linker has a
backbone that is less than 9 atoms in length.
83. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 in which the linker
comprises a functional group selected from an alkene, a diene, an alkyne, a five membered ring
having at least one unsaturated bond, a six membered ring having at least one unsaturated bond
and a fused ring structure.
84. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 which further comprises a
linking group suitable for attaching the energy transfer dye to another substance.
85. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 84 in which the linking group
is attached to the 4'-position of the 4,7-dichlororhodamine acceptor dye.
86. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 which comprises the
structure:



wherein:

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen and alkyl, or alternatively R^1 and R^5 , R^2 and R^6 , R^3 and R^8 and/or R^4 and R^9 may be taken together with the atoms to which they are bonded to form a 5, 6 or 7-membered ring;

R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^9 and R^{10} are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl and substituted phenyl, or alternatively, R^6 and R^7 and/or R^9 and R^{10} may be taken together with the atoms to which they are bonded to form a benzo group;

R^8 is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl, substituted phenyl and linking group;

X^1 and X^3 are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile and alkoxy;

L is the linker linking the donor and acceptor dyes;

R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{15} and R^{16} are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate,

sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl and substituted phenyl, or alternatively, R¹² and R¹³ and/or R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ may be taken together with the atoms to which they are bonded to form a benzo group;

R¹⁴ is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl, substituted phenyl and linking group; and

X¹¹, X¹², X¹³ and X¹⁵ are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile and alkoxy.

Claims 87-151 (Cancelled).